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LB 561

SENATOR MOREHEAD: This is public disclosure, right?

SENATOR VON MINDEN: Mmm, hmm.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Thank you, Senator Von Minden. Senator Hoagland, I have a question for you if you would, please.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: This is public disclosure, this list that you have sent around to us, case history...?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: It is taken out of this book right here, Senator Morehead, of over 200 case histories for North Carolina since 1977 of improper treatment by optometrists.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: All right, public knowledge though?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Oh, yes.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Readily obtainable public knowledge. Do you know of any public documents that we have available to us of case histories that could be mistreated by ophthalmologists?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Oh, I can tell you a couple we have in our law office, Senator Morehead. See one of the problems I have is we have enough difficulty, and my doctor friends will have to bear with me, we have enough trouble maintaining the high standards we need from ophthalmologists who have had at least eight years of training solely in treating medical conditions.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Well, I guess I find it rather incredible that we have public disclosure on one hand that can be used against a profession but we don't have true public disclosure on the other hand and I think that maybe this brings up another whole issue. If Senator Von Minden's legislation passes and if we have public disclosure here, then maybe we should have public disclosure of misuse of